

CENTRAL AMERICA/U.S. AID -

MACNEIL: Senator, ah, Senator Tsongas, you colleague, said on a program on CBS--you were there with him last night--I heard him say it's because the Democrats, you Democrats are afraid that the president's going to blame you for the loss of Central America. DODD:**Sure. That's what he did last night in his spach, ah, speech, rather. He set us up, in effect, in saying Congress. And to many people, Congress is, ah, the Democratic Party, the Congress is responsible for all of this. You know, the great pity of it all is the president's speech last night, he never really went into the fact that we are militarizing that situation. You got right down the four major countries. Here you have a Duarte election, a great opportunity to pursue something other than military solution. In Honduras, we've turned it into an armed camp, virtually a land-based carrier. In Nicaragua, we support the contras, we finance them. Without us they wouldn't last a week. We mine harbors. We engage in terrorist activities that, ah, hurt civilians in that country. In Costa Rica now, we know, learn that we're financing or supporting them, provided that they also take a hard-line position against the, ah, against the Sandinistas, creating a climate expanding the military involvement. We're as guilty, I think, as the Cubans.

MACNEIL: What, ah, does the, ah, D'Aubuisson charge about the elections and the sort of implied threats it contains give you any anxiety about the stability and legitimacy of Mr. Duarte's new government, if he gets to form one?

DODD: Sure it does. I, I don't like to hear those statements at all. I happen to have a great deal of respect for Jose Napoleon Duarte, and I would like to see him win. But I will tell you that I don't think Jesse Helms is wrong. He and I don't agree on much, ah, but I think he's probably correct. We've tried to orchestrate the outcome of that election, just as we've tried to, ah, orchestrate events with the counterrevolutionaries in Honduras, operating in Nicaragua, just as we're trying to browbeat Costa Rica into supporting our policy. It's just further evidence that we refuse to let the people of this region determine their own future. We're determined to determine it for them.

MACNEIL: Ah, Mr., Secretary Motley, if you're still there, is that, is that true? Did, as Senator Helms and Mr. D'Aubuisson charge, the United States pay for the campaigns of Mr. Duarate and the other moderate opponents of D'Aubuisson? MOTLEY: So I'm informed that, ah, that they did raise a charge. But I think that, ah, maybe Chris can help me, but I think that one of his colleagues,

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ah, that is one of Senator Helms' colleagues on the floor of the Senate stated that he had been in these intelligence committees and he, and Helms is not a member, and he had not heard those, ah, those assertions that were made.

MACNEIL: Did the U.S., through the CIA, not help to finance the Duarte campaign? MOTLEY:**Well, ah, I think you know what our standard answer is with regards to the CIA and intelligence activities, Robin. You've heard it before, and it kinda grieves me to have to give it to you. And that is, but that we don't comment on, on any intelligence activities. But one of the things that may lead to the confusion is that there's no doubt that the United States, ah, through committees, voted money, ah, some \$4 million to aid in that election. And that means providing computers and, and paying for poll-watchers and all kind of things. And maybe there's a confusion on that issue.

* Sen Christopher Dodd (D. Conn)

** Langhorne Motley (Assist. Secretary of State)